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# Caistor Rural District Council

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## ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

R. J. R. MECREDY, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

and of the



CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR  
AND SURVEYOR

V. G. HUDSON, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.A.R.D.S.

for the Year

1952



# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the CAISTOR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1952.

As will be seen from the figures for Infantile Mortality Rate and general Death Rate in the population it can be said that the welfare and general health in the Rural District still reaches a high standard. As I point out in my report, in Section G on Health and Welfare of school-children, there are still quite a number of children who suffer from debility and poor nutrition. On the other hand certain skin diseases, such as impetigo and scabies, have practically disappeared. This is suggestive of a general improvement in the standards of hygiene in the community.

In the section dealing with notifiable diseases a considerable increase in the Scarlet Fever cases reported was noted. This cannot be considered as a very serious matter to-day in view of the general mildness of the cases. The more serious diseases such as Poliomyelitis, Typhoid, and Paratyphoid Fever, and Diphtheria were again absent from the list. While Typhoid and Diphtheria can be controlled, it is doubtful whether there is yet any satisfactory way to prevent Poliomyelitis.

With the building of more houses by the Council and by private owners and with the modernisation of old Council houses and of private properties, steady progress was made in the improvement of living conditions for many families.

During the year the property of the Market Rasen Water Company was taken over by the Rural District Council and plans were put forward for its improvement. It is now possible to foresee the presence of a piped water supply in almost every home in the District except the very isolated ones. At the present time approximately 12,000 people out of the estimated 14,260 in the District are supplied with water. The installation of new sewage systems for the rather scattered village populations is becoming more and more expensive, and it is doubtful whether any more large schemes will be sanctioned for some time to come.

In the period of thirty-nine years since I first embarked on the practice of Preventive Medicine there have been great achievements in the control of certain diseases. It is my opinion that future progress will lie in the better education of our schoolchildren and of our adult population so that they may consciously seek after a positive and dynamic health, and not merely expect freedom from disease as the result of the work of others.

During the year Mr. Drakes, Senior Sanitary Inspector, again gave excellent service to the Council, and his transfer to another Rural District in the South was much regretted. His successor, Mr. V. G. Hudson, has shown promise of getting to grips with the problems of a new district very rapidly. Mr. Andrews, our new Assistant Sanitary Inspector, has done much useful work. Mr. Dixon has had a very strenuous year in the installation of new water connections and the general supervision of the extensive system of waterworks now under the control of the Rural District Council.

I have to thank the staff of the Public Health Department as a whole for their valuable work throughout the year. As this may be my Swan song I should like to express my thanks not only to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support, but also to all the Councillors who have shown an interest in the work of our Department of the Council.

I am, Your obedient Servant,

R. J. R. MECREDY,

Medical Officer of Health,  
Caistor Rural District Council.



## SECTION A — Vital and General Statistics

The estimated population, according to the Registrar General, was 14,260, a decrease of 250 on the previous year. It is now possible to say that there are about 2,000 people living at the R.A.F. Station in the parish of Stainton-le-Vale. This gives a population of approximately 12,260 for the Caistor Rural District if the Service personnel and their families are excluded. This latter is a rather fluid population and apparently varies within fairly wide limits.

The Infantile Mortality Rate at about the same figure for 1951 is still below that of the whole country. The Death Rate shows a further fall below the low rate recorded last year and is appreciably lower than that for England and Wales.

The Birth Rate remains at a satisfactory level and is higher than that for the country as a whole.

The Caistor Rural District comprises forty parishes, whose population varies from about eighty to just under 2,000 in Caistor itself. As already pointed out, the population in Stainton-le-Vale is probably over the 2,000 mark.

The area of the Rural District is 119,992 acres.

Population 1921 census	..	..	12,670
Population 1931 census	..	..	12,648
Population 1952 (estimated)	..	..	14,260
Habitable houses (approximately)	..	..	4,035

The rateable value of the district on the 1st April, 1952, was £44,207, and the product of a penny rate was £172 18s. 2d. for the year ending 31st March, 1952.

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1952

			For England and Wales	Average 1942-51	Average 1932-41
Total live births	..	222	—	215	197
Total illegitimate live births	..	9	—	—	—
Birth rate per 1,000 esti- mated resident popu- lation mid-1952	..	18.4	15.3	—	—
Total deaths	..	129	—	—	—
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	..	8.1	11.3	—	—
Deaths of infants under one year of age	..	5	—	—	—
Deaths of infants under four weeks of age	..	3	—	—	—
Stillbirths	..	4	—	—	—
Deaths of illegitimate infants	..	1	—	—	—
Death rate of infants under one year of age	..	22.5	27.6	—	—
And of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	..	18.9	—	—	—
Deaths from all Malignant Neoplasms	..	15	—	—	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	..	Nil	—	—	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough	..	Nil	—	—	—
Deaths from Puerperal causes	..	Nil	—	—	—
Deaths from diseases of the heart and circula- tory system	..	66	—	—	—

More than half of all deaths are again recorded from diseases of the heart and circulatory system, while there was a slight fall in the number of deaths recorded from malignant diseases.

### Causes of Death in Caistor Rural District, 1952

	Male	Female	
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory .. ..	2	0	
2. " other forms .. ..	0	0	
3. Syphilitic disease .. ..	0	0	
4. Diphtheria .. ..	0	0	
5. Whooping Cough .. ..	0	0	
6. Meningococcal infections .. ..	0	0	
7. Acute Poliomyelitis .. ..	0	0	
8. Measles .. ..	0	0	
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	0	0	
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach .. ..	2	0	
11. " " lung, bronchus .. ..	0	0	
12. " " breast .. ..	0	0	
13. " " uterus .. ..	—	1	
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neo- plasms .. ..	6	6	
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia .. ..	0	0	
16. Diabetes .. ..	0	1	
17. Vascular Lesions of nervous system ..	9	9	
18. Coronary disease, Angina .. ..	6	3	
19. Hypertension with heart disease ..	0	0	
20. Other heart disease .. ..	18	12	
21. Other circulatory disease .. ..	5	4	
22. Influenza .. ..	0	0	
23. Pneumonia .. ..	1	2	
24. Bronchitis .. ..	5	0	
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ..	2	0	
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	1	0	
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..	0	2	
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis .. ..	1	1	
29. Hyperplasia of prostate .. ..	0	—	
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .. ..	—	0	
31. Congenital malformations .. ..	1	0	
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	4	10	
33. Motor vehicle accidents .. ..	1	0	
34. All other accidents .. ..	10	1	
35. Suicide .. ..	2	1	
36. Homicide and operations of war .. ..	0	0	
	—	—	
Total deaths .. ..	76	53	129
	—	—	

## SECTION B

### General Provisions of Health Services in the Area

1. *Mental Illness.* Treatment will be arranged in conjunction with the Regional Hospital Board. Supervision and aftercare will be carried out by specially trained workers employed by the County Council.

*Mental Defectives.* The County Council through the Regional Hospital Board will make arrangements for the institutional care of mental defectives.

The County Council remains responsible for the care and supervision of mental defectives in their own homes.

2. *Laboratory Facilities.* Examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, St. Anne's Road, Lincoln, and at Grimsby and District Hospital. Diphtheria Anti-toxin, Anti-Typhoid serum, and Scarlet Fever Streptococcus Anti-toxin are supplied by the District Council and from the above laboratories.

3. *Ambulance Facilities,* under National Fire Service. An ambulance can be obtained either through the patient's doctor or nurse, or in the event of an emergency by asking the telephone operator for the ambulance station.

### Summary (for reference) of Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals, and other Institutions available for the District

*Nursing in the Home.* All district nurses now come under the authority of the Lindsey County Council.

*Clinics and Treatment Centres.* Treatment and aftercare of Tuberculosis cases now come under the Regional Hospital Board. School clinics remain under the care of the Lindsey County Council.

*Hospitals, Isolation.* All cases of infectious diseases and Smallpox cases are dealt with by the Regional Hospital Board.

*Midwifery and Maternity Services.* Administered by the Lindsey County Council.

*Health Visitors.* The duties of the above are performed through the Lindsey County Council.

*Infant Life Protection.* The duties of the above are performed through the Lindsey County Council.

*Arrangements for Dental Cases, etc.,* by the Lindsey County Council.

*Registration of Nursing Homes* by the Lindsey County Council.

*Orthopaedic Cases* are now seen at the various hospital out-patients' departments and at some school clinics.

*Home Help Service.* Full-time and part-time home helps are now available in the district (Lindsey County Council).



## SECTION C

### Notifiable Diseases

I have again included a table showing the notification of all diseases in detail for the last six years and an average for the periods 1942-51, 1932-41, and finally 1901-10. There has been a drop in the total notifications for the year but the level still remains above that for the years 1947-50. Measles and Whooping Cough again form the bulk of the notifications, but Scarlet Fever has shown a marked recrudescence, but the disease was generally very mild. The absence of Diphtheria is very satisfactory. It is possible that both Food Poisoning and Dysentery will be more in evidence in the future.

Initial immunisations against Diphtheria showed an increase to 191, while 212 children were given a " booster " dose. A steady campaign has been carried on in the schools for the immunisation of the children.

Primary vaccinations against Smallpox numbered seventy-six and re-vaccinations were done in eighteen cases.

Notifiable Diseases	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	Average for 10 years 1942-51	Average for 10 years 1932-41	1901-10
Measles .. ..	161	286	121	89	115	114	140	—†	†
Whooping Cough..	82	72	80	71	48	7	43	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	41	28	1	4	5	32	25.6	20.2	30
Diphtheria ..	0	1	0	0	1	6	3.2	3.7	23.7
Pneumonia ..	9	13	0	13	4	6	6.4	7.3	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .. ..	4	7	3	6	8	4	7.4	8.7	—
Tuberculosis of Glands, etc. ..	1	6	3	4	7	10	5.4	3.8	—†
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	3	2	0	1	2	1.8	0	0
Erysipelas ..	0	0	3	3	6	1	3.5	3.2	‡4.2
Poliomyelitis ..	0	0	0	1	0	3	0.6	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. ..	0	0	1	0	1	0	1.0	0.6	0
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever..	0	1	0	0	0	1	0.3	0.7	4.8
Dysentery.. ..	5	1	1	0	0	0	1.8	0	0
Food Poisoning ..	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malaria .. ..	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ..	305	420	215	192	196	186	240.0	—	—

† Not notifiable.

‡ 1903-12.

## SECTION D

### Water Supply

There are thirty-four parishes now in which there is a piped water supply.

Approximately 3,500 houses are now on a piped water supply covering a population of about 12,000. This includes the R.A.F. Station in Stainton-le-Vale parish in which there are approximately 2,000 people living in 200 houses, barracks, and some caravans. During the year the Market Rasen Water Company's undertaking was bought up by the Rural District Council.

Plans to improve the supply to Tealby, Market Rasen and Middle Rasen are being put forward. No further progress was made in regard to the "Ridge Scheme" for certain parishes on the Wold.

Eighty-two samples of water were taken for analysis, eighteen from private sources and fifty-four from the Rural District's piped supplies. Ten samples were taken from wells. Out of the eighty-two samples taken eighteen were unsatisfactory. (For further details on this matter see the Sanitary Inspector's Report.) During the year a pipeline was laid into Sixhills from Louth R.D.C. and twenty houses were connected. A further extension was in process of being laid from Sixhills into Legsby and North Willingham.

Parish				Total		Supplied
				Houses	Population	Houses
Bigby	..	..	..	76	230	31
Bishop Norton	..	..	..	104	323	88
Buslingthorpe	..	..	..	26	90	21
Cabourne	..	..	..	35	115	30
Caistor	..	..	..	489	1,830	485
Claxby	..	..	..	59	190	52
Glentham	..	..	..	103	330	86
Grasby	..	..	..	108	370	91
Keelby	..	..	..	287	902	280
Kelsey, North	..	..	..	265	810	210
Kelsey, South	..	..	..	150	480	137
Legsby	..	..	..	97	290	86
Limber	..	..	..	124	380	102
Linwood	..	..	..	50	130	43
Lissington	..	..	..	59	190	54
Nettleton	..	..	..	168	533	142
Normanby-le-Wold	..	..	..	25	90	24
Osgodby	..	..	..	158	490	138
Owersby	..	..	..	119	390	110
Rasen, West	..	..	..	45	160	36
Riby	..	..	..	63	300	36
Rothwell	..	..	..	64	190	43
Searby-cum-Owmby	..	..	..	51	175	44
Snitterby	..	..	..	70	210	52
Somerby	..	..	..	21	80	10
Swallow	..	..	..	65	210	34
Swinhope	..	..	..	18	60	4
Toft Newton	..	..	..	44	140	42
Waddingham	..	..	..	181	570	135
Walesby	..	..	..	83	260	56
Sixhills	..	..	..	26	94	20
Tealby	..	..	..	192	640	162
Rasen, Middle	..	..	..	354	1,130	308
Parishes with private supplies :						
Holton-le-Moor	..	..	..	58	190	57
Brocklesby	..	..	..	59	202	59



## **SECTION E**

### **Sewerage and Sewage Disposal**

The sewage scheme for the village of Keelby was almost completed during the year. In Caistor there are now 372 houses with water closets to existing sewage system. There are still eighty houses using pail closets, vaults or middens.

In Nettleton parish there are seventy-one houses using water closets connected to septic tank or cesspools. Included in this figure are the thirty-eight houses in the Council House Estate which are connected to a small sewage scheme, forty-nine houses, however, have pail closets and there are still six privy middens or vaults.

Eighty-six conversions were made to water closets in the Rural District as a whole.

The total number of houses with water closets are estimated to number 1,293 while there are about 2,742 houses still on pail closets or privies. These figures do not cover the arrangements at the R.A.F. Station in Stainton-le-Vale parish. This Station, it is understood, is fully sewered.

## **SECTION F**

### **Housing**

Fifty-three new houses were built during the year, bringing the total since the war to 345.

Twenty-eight defective dwelling-houses were renovated during the year. Three unoccupied houses were demolished during the year and a Closing Order was issued in respect of another unoccupied house.

## **SECTION G**

### **Health and Welfare of Schoolchildren**

During the year 609 children were given a routine medical examination in the schools of the Caistor-Market Rasen districts. The general health and nutrition of these children was satisfactory on the whole. At the school clinic in Market Rasen 168 children attended for treatment during the year. Forty-one of these were recorded as being of low nutritional status or as suffering from Asthenia. Nineteen cases of Bronchitis were treated. Impetigo and Scabies were not noted in any of these children and other skin diseases were very rare. As before, a certain number of children with chronic Bronchitic states were noted and referred for treatment.

Of 271 children in the 5+ age group 23·6% had perfect sets of teeth and there was an average of 3·8 carious or treated teeth per head. These figures are virtually the same as those reported by me in 1948. Of 183 children in the 10+ age group, 14·2% had perfect sets of teeth and there was an average of 3·7 carious or treated teeth per head. Of the 155 children in the 14+ age group, 9·7% had perfect sets of teeth and the average number of carious or treated teeth per head was 4·3. As compared with similar examinations reported in 1948 these last two age groups show an average increase in the extent of dental decay of one tooth per head.

In the 5+ age group, deformities of the feet were uncommon. In the 10+ age group Hallux Valgus was present in 16·4% of 183 children, while this had risen to 36·1% in the 155 children in the 14+ age group.

There were nine Hernias or Herniotomy scars and ten Appendicectomy scars in the whole group of 609 children. There were Appendicectomy scars in 5% of the 155 children in the 14+ age group.

Ten children of school age in the combined districts were examined and found to be educationally subnormal and appropriate treatment advised.



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To the CAISTOR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1952. As I only commenced work for your Council on the 8th December, 1952, it is apparent that most of the report refers to the activities of Mr. D. Drakes, who left the service of the Caistor R.D.C. in October, 1952.

The department showed steady progress in all aspects of public health and on the surveying side, and much valuable work was done during the year.

### (1) Town and Country Planning

The Council have delegated powers from the Lindsey County Council under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, and during the year 243 planning proposals were received and dealt with. The Planning Register is available on demand for examination by interested members of the public but, so far, no one has availed himself of the privilege.

Of the 243 cases, 235 were approved and six refused — all on planning grounds — and two withdrawn. There were no refusals of plans on public health or byelaw grounds.

### (2) Housing and Building Development

(a) *General.* During the year the Council continued to build as many Council houses as possible and, with the easing of licensing restrictions, more persons began to consider erecting their own houses. Only six houses were being built by a Contractor with a view to sale on completion.

Shortage of cement and, towards the end of the year a difficulty in obtaining bricks, made the erection of all new buildings, including Council houses, more difficult and tended to slow down the rate of completion of dwellings.

Licensing of repairs and improvements became quite small by the end of the year and the reduction in the vast amount of work that licensing had involved enabled other important work to be more closely dealt with.

**TABLE OF PLANS APPROVED DURING THE YEAR 1952**  
**with corresponding details for 1948, 1949, 1950 and 1951**

Type of Building	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
1. Council Houses .. ..	7	14	9	15	31
2. Private Houses .. ..	24	15	12	18	7
3. Additions and Alterations to Houses .. ..	72	44	44	37	91
4. Conversions to Houses ..	10	11	3	3	4
5. Farm Buildings .. ..	53	26	26	11	3
6. Factories (including alterations and additions) .. ..	8	4	8	1	1
7. Temporary Buildings ..	10	2	3	12	10
8. Licensed Premises (alterations and additions) .. ..	4	6	5	3	—
9. Shops (including alterations and additions) .. ..	9	8	5	3	1
10. Petrol Stations and Garages ..	5	2	3	11	7
11. Local Authority (sewers and water schemes) .. ..	4	5	6	7	7
12. Statutory Undertakings (Electricity Board, etc.) ..	4	25	37	52	52
13. Private Garages .. ..	8	8	9	8	10
14. Mineral Workings .. ..	—	—	3	2	1
15. Advertisements .. ..	—	—	—	5	16
16. Bus Shelters .. ..	—	—	—	—	2
Totals ..	218	170	173	188	243



## (2) New Houses

During the past twenty-three years (1930-52 inclusive) 702 new houses have been built in the district, 337 by private enterprise and 365 by this Council.

### NEW HOUSES COMPLETED

				Private Enterprise	Caistor R.D.C.
1930	..	..	..	6	30
1931	..	..	..	19	12
1932	..	..	..	24	—
1933	..	..	..	27	—
1934	..	..	..	14	—
1935	..	..	..	29	—
1936	..	..	..	23	8
1937	..	..	..	29	—
1938	..	..	..	28	—
1939	..	..	..	48	30
1944	..	..	..	—	30
1946	..	..	..	8	—
1947	..	..	..	14	20
1948	..	..	..	17	57
1949	..	..	..	13	37
1950	..	..	..	13	45
1951	..	..	..	14	54
1952	..	..	..	11	42
				—	—
			Totals	337	365 = 702
				—	—

The houses completed in 1952 were in the following parishes :

				Private Enterprise	Caistor R.D.C.
Caistor	..	..	..	2	12
Glentham	..	..	..	1	—
Keelby	..	..	..	—	12
Kelsey, North	..	..	..	2	—
Kelsey, South	..	..	..	—	4
Limber	..	..	..	1	—
Nettleton	..	..	..	2	4
Normanby-le-Wold	..	..	..	—	2
Osgodby	..	..	..	1	—
Swinhope	..	..	..	—	4
Tealby	..	..	..	1	—
Waddingham	..	..	..	1	4
				—	—
				11	42
				—	—

All new houses are provided with one or more W.C.s, separate bathroom and running hot water.

# COUNCIL HOUSES — NUMBER BUILT IN EACH PARISH

Parish	Completed before 1940	Built 1944	Built Since	Total	In course of con- struction
Bigby .. ..	—	—	8	8	—
Bishop Norton .. ..	—	2	4	6	4
Brocklesby .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Buslingthorpe .. ..	4	—	2	6	—
Cabourne .. ..	—	—	4	4	—
Caistor .. ..	33	4	50	87	—
Claxby .. ..	—	—	2	2	—
Glentham .. ..	—	2	8	10	—
Grasby .. ..	4	—	4	8	—
Holton .. ..	—	—	4	4	—
Keelby .. ..	18	2	20	40	8
Kelsey, North .. ..	18	2	26	46	—
Kelsey, South .. ..	14	2	8	24	8
Kirmond .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Legsby .. ..	2	2	—	4	10
Limber .. ..	8	—	8	16	4
Linwood .. ..	—	—	—	—	6
Lissington .. ..	—	—	—	—	4
Nettleton .. ..	14	—	16	30	12
Normanby .. ..	—	—	4	4	—
Osgodby .. ..	10	2	6	18	—
Owersby .. ..	6	4	6	16	2
Rasen, Middle .. ..	18	—	16	34	—
Rasen, West .. ..	—	2	—	2	—
Rothwell .. ..	—	4	12	16	—
Searby-cum-Owmby (Owmby Village)	—	—	2	2	2
Sixhills .. ..	—	—	—	—	2
Snitterby .. ..	4	—	4	8	4
Somerby .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Stainton-le-Vale .. ..	—	—	—	—	2
Swallow .. ..	—	—	4	4	—
Swinhope .. ..	—	—	4	4	—
Tealby .. ..	—	—	12	12	—
Thoresway .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Thorganby .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Toft Newton .. ..	—	—	2	2	—
Waddingham .. ..	18	2	12	32	—
Walesby .. ..	—	—	4	4	—
Willingham, North..	—	—	4	4	—
Totals .. ..	171	30	256	457	68

#### (4) Council Houses — General Remarks

The rents of the normal houses during 1952 were as follows :

	Rent	Rates vary between	
Pre-war houses			
All services .. .. .	12/-	—	3/9—4/2
Other .. .. .	9/3	—	
Agricultural houses (1944) ..	11/9		4/8
Post-war houses .. .. .	12/9		4/2—4/8
Post-war bungalows .. .. .	8/9		3/3

The amount of the contribution per dwelling to the repairs fund for 1952/3 was £7 10s. 0d. ; this was found to be the minimum and difficulties were experienced in carrying out the essential work required to maintain the houses in good condition. During the year 100 houses were painted, mainly by contract, and this item alone accounted for £1,320 2s. 4d. The Council carried out as many repairs as possible by direct labour as this allowed for cheaper, quicker work and the arrangements were more flexible.

#### (5) Council Houses — Installation of Modern Facilities and Electric Light

Further Council houses, thirty-six in all, were improved during the year and hot water systems, including a modern cooker, were installed in thirty-two existing Council houses and electricity supply was afforded to four Council houses. This work is done by agreement with the tenant and results in rent increases as follows :

New cooker, hot water system, bath, etc. ..	1/6 per week
Electricity supply (lighting and power) ..	1/3 „ „

These increases bring the rents into line with the amount paid by those living in post-war Council houses who already have these facilities.

#### (6) Reconditioned Private Houses

Ninety-one plans for the enlargement or improvement of dwellings were approved during the year and in seventy-one cases the work was carried out. The work largely consisted of improvements to the facilities provided in the house and there was a continuation of the trend for the older houses to be provided with modern amenities. This was encouraged by the Department as far as possible by assistance and advice to owners.

The total value of the twenty-eight Building Licences issued during the year was £13,349 and these mainly concerned improvements to existing houses. The increase of the free licence figure to £500 made most of the type of work previously licensed no longer subject to control except in the matter of the provision of timber.



## Housing Act, 1949

During the year six applications were received from owners for the improvement of six properties under this Act. Three were approved and the total amount of financial assistance given was £400. This scheme served a need and enabled good houses to be made excellent ; there is, at the moment, no assistance available to bring poor houses up to a modern standard and, unless these are repaired by owner/occupiers, they are likely to become subjects of action under the Housing Act, 1936, at a later date. It would appear that the national policy in this matter is to bring all good houses up to an excellent standard ; all other houses which fall short of this standard and which cannot, within the framework of the requirements of the Housing Act, 1949, be brought up to the required high standard, to be allowed to continue with minor repairs until they are either owner/occupied or become fit subjects for condemnation under the Housing Act, 1936.

This appears to be a new trend and one which will affect the design of most villages and towns in a rural area. Many of the houses which cannot be the subject of major repair for which financial assistance can be given are in or near the centre of the village and, if these are to be gradually allowed to fall into disuse, the clearance of these areas and their rebuilding becomes an important aspect of local authority work. The present tendency will, unless the more central areas are re-developed, cause the size of towns and villages to be much increased without a corresponding increase in population and some of the conveniences of proximity to schools, shops, churches, etc., will be lost. Additional factors are the increasing cost and extent of the services required : sewers, water supply, electricity, etc., and the provision and maintenance of new roads. The overall loss of agricultural land is also a matter of concern, although this is a national rather than a local problem.

### (7) Summary of Work under the Housing Acts during 1952

#### (a) *Dwelling-house inspections.*

(1)	Total houses inspected for defects .. .. .	74
(2)	Number of inspections made for purpose .. .. .	106
(3)	Number of dwellings found to be dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .. .. .	1
(4)	Number of houses found defective but repairable .. .. .	3

#### (b) *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.*

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit as a result of informal action .. .. .	27
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#### (c) *Overcrowding.*

There is no record of overcrowded houses in the district at the moment.

The permitted number of new houses and reconditioned properties are added to the register compiled under the Housing Act, 1936.

### (8) Abatement of Nuisances

Total number of nuisances investigated during the year ..	32
Total number of nuisances abated as a result of informal action by Sanitary Inspector .. .. .	32
Details of nuisances are as follows.:	
Accumulation of refuse .. .. .	1
Foul ditches, ponds and stagnant water .. .. .	29
Fowls, pigs and other animals .. .. .	2

## (9) Sewerage

Tealby and Caistor have now an almost entire sewerage scheme and both worked throughout the year with only minor trouble. The standard of effluent from both continued to be reasonably satisfactory. The villages of South Kelsey and North Kelsey have schemes which work with little trouble, although the drainage discharge from both villages causes some nuisance in the dykes.

The work of construction of a pumping station, a new sewage disposal works and new sewers for the village of Keelby progressed well during the year.

Middle Rasen parish has a combined sewage disposal system with Market Rasen U.D.C. ; the works are in the Middle Rasen parish and the joint responsibility between the Caistor R.D. and the Market Rasen U.D. worked satisfactorily.

The estimated number of properties connected to the sewers in these parishes is :

				Having	Houses in
Parish				W.C.s	Parish
Caistor	..	..	466	421	493
Keelby	..	..	204	100	265
North Kelsey	..	..	200	64	262
South Kelsey	..	..	103	33	146
Middle Rasen	..	..	188	125	357
Tealby	..	..	130	117	191

No further schemes were approved for the Rural District by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government during the year.

Schemes for the improvement or provision of sewerage facilities and sewage disposal works are required in :

- (1) Waddingham.
- (2) Osgodby.
- (3) Limber.
- (4) North Kelsey.
- (5) South Kelsey.
- (6) Grasby.
- (7) Bigby

The most serious risks of public health nuisance are in the beck at Waddingham, the outfall streams at North and South Kelsey and in the beck at Bigby. The need for more houses in Grasby is closely allied to the village's claim for a better system of sewage disposal.

## (10) Drainage

In eighty-six cases financial assistance was given to the conversion of pail closets to water closets. These cases occurred throughout the Rural District and forty-four were to septic tanks and forty-two connected to sewers. Since 1945 196 cases have been helped by the Council at a total cost of nearly £2,000.

All drainage work, to new or old properties, is examined and tested prior to its being passed. During the year 653 inspections were made of new and existing drainage systems.

A standard plan of treatment tank has been prepared and a copy is sent to all enquirers so that a good type of tank is provided.



## (11) Water Supplies

(a) *Distribution.* During the past year a further ten miles of water main was laid in the Rural Area and work on Section E was completed by the end of the year ; this gave supplies for the first time to the parishes of Legsby, Sixhills, and North Willingham. All the properties in these parishes were personally canvassed and supplies were taken by every occupier where the supply was available, with two exceptions. This shows how much a supply of good drinking water was needed in these parishes. In addition, many supplies were taken through meters for fields, farmyards, etc.

The agricultural extensions in the above parishes were also completed but the extensions in the other parts of the district still await sanction to go ahead from the Ministry. The only parishes in the Rural Area without a proper piped water supply are Thoresway, Thorganby, Kirmond-le-Mire, and Stainton, and plans for these have been submitted to the Ministry and are awaiting permission to go to tender.

On 1st April, 1952, the Council took over control of the Market Rasen Water Co., which supplies the Urban District of Market Rasen and the parishes of Middle Rasen and Tealby within the area of the Caistor Rural District. Much work has been done to put this undertaking in order and a fairly satisfactory supply is being maintained ; this will be greatly improved when the improvement works planned by the Council have been carried out. Eighty-four meters were fixed in the supply of the undertaking to properties using water for other than domestic purposes.

(b) *Supplies and Consumption.* An adequate supply of water was available at all sources of supply during the year and a surplus occurred at Otby and Nettleton. The supply at Caistor was augmented during the autumn by supplies from the Grimsby, Cleethorpes and District Water Board.

The diesel engine at Swallow pumphouse was replaced by automatic electric pumping machinery during the year.

The total length of mains owned by the Council is 145 miles and the average daily consumption from all sources is approximately 400,000 gallons. The total number of meters fixed at the end of the year was 734.

During the year a connection was made with the supply of the Horncastle Rural District Council at West Torrington and a supply of approximately 12,000 gallons per day was afforded to that authority.

(c) *Water Samples.* Eighty-two samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination during the year and the results are as follows :

Public Supplies, Caistor R.D.	Private Supply, Market Rasen Water Co., Brocklesby, Holton, and Limber				Other Individual Wells, Springs, etc.	
S.    Uns.	S.	Uns.			S.	Uns.
48    6	9	9			7	3

S. — Satisfactory.

Uns. — Unsatisfactory (including doubtful).



In every case the main supply was re-sampled and later reports were satisfactory. Chlorination is carried out in Walesby only (Otby supply) and the other sources are not chlorinated. The Council is applying for authority for proper chlorination apparatus to be installed to chlorinate all the sources of the public supply: Caistor, Nettleton, Otby, and Tealby.

The water supplies are hard, with the following report an indication of the average hardness:

Calcium as CaO .. ..	139.0	parts per million
Magnesium as MgO .. ..	7.0	" " "
Sulphates as SO <sub>3</sub> .. ..	38.0	" " "
Carbonates as CO <sub>2</sub> .. ..	81.8	" " "
	<hr/> 265.8	<hr/> " " "

Permanent hardness approx. 180 parts per million.

Private supplies were sampled in ten cases and, wherever the main is available, the owner is encouraged to connect the property thereto.

Samples are taken for analysis to the Public Health Laboratory at Lincoln, where the Director and his staff give an excellent service which is entirely without cost to the Council.

## (12) Milk Regulations, 1949

(a) *Designated Milk*. Supplementary licences for the sale of sterilised or pasteurised milk under the provisions of the Special Designation (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, have been issued or re-issued in eleven parishes. The milk is treated and bottled outside the Council's area.

(b) *Tuberculosis Order, 1938*. Seventy-six samples of milk were taken during the year under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, and in no sample were positive Tuberculosis organisms found.

Milk samples are taken as a result of an agreement with the County Council in cases where raw milk is being retailed and if negative results are obtained no further action is taken until subsequent routine samples at regular intervals are taken.

(c) *Brucella Abortus*. Tests for *Brucella Abortus* are carried out on the same sample of milk taken under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938.

In one case only at Middle Rasen was this organism isolated in the milk, and as a result the retailer decided no longer to retail milk but send it to the Milk Marketing Board for treatment.

## (13) Food Premises

The following premises are registered in the Rural District:

Bakehouses .. ..	7
Fish and Chip shops .. ..	9
Preserved Food preparation .. ..	11
Ice-cream (retail) .. ..	25

During the year these premises and the public houses were inspected regularly and the standard of cleanliness was good.

No ice-cream samples were taken during the year but all the ice-cream sold is pre-packed and manufactured in other districts.

(14) Factories Act, 1937

The list of factories in the district is as follows :

Parishes	Factories' Mechanical Power			Other Premises
	With	Without	Total	
Bigby .. ..	—	—	—	1
Buslingthorpe .. ..	—	—	—	1
Cabourne .. ..	1	—	1	1
Caistor .. ..	5	1	6	4
Claxby .. ..	1	—	1	—
Glentham .. ..	1	—	1	1
Grasby .. ..	2	1	3	—
Holton-le-Moor .. ..	—	—	—	1
Keelby .. ..	3	—	3	—
North Kelsey .. ..	4	—	4	2
South Kelsey .. ..	—	—	—	1
Limber .. ..	—	—	1	—
Nettleton .. ..	5	2	7	2
Normanby-le-Wold .. ..	—	—	—	1
Osgodby .. ..	5	1	6	1
Owersby .. ..	1	—	1	1
Middle Rasen .. ..	2	—	2	6
Riby .. ..	1	—	1	1
Searby .. ..	—	—	—	1
Swallow .. ..	—	—	—	1
Swinhope .. ..	—	—	—	1
Tealby .. ..	2	—	2	1
Waddingham .. ..	4	—	4	1
Walesby .. ..	2	—	2	1
Willingham, North .. ..	—	—	—	1
	39	6	45	31
	—	—	—	—

Table of factories and other premises :

Type of Factory	Factories' Mechanical Power		Other Premises
	With	Without	
Aerated Water .. ..	1	—	—
Agricultural Blacksmith .. ..	4	1	—
Baking .. ..	2	—	—
Boot Maker-Repairer .. ..	1	—	—
Corn and Offal Warehouse .. ..	—	1	—
Egg Graders and Packers .. ..	1	—	—
Grass Driers .. ..	1	—	—
Gasworks .. ..	1	—	—
Lime Quarrying and Crushing .. ..	2	—	—
Motor and Agricultural Engineers .. ..	8	1	—
Printers .. ..	1	—	—
Provender Millers .. ..	2	—	—
Woodworkers .. ..	14	3	—
Building and Engineering Operations .. ..	—	—	31
Ironstone Mining .. ..	1	—	—
	39	6	31
	—	—	—

The number of inspections carried out during the year was seventy-three.

### (15) Public Scavenging

The system of refuse collection continued as in the previous year — a weekly collection in the parishes of Caistor, Keelby, Brocklesby, and Nettleton and fortnightly in the other parishes. The system worked well and gave rise to few complaints. The refuse is disposed of by tipping in partly controlled tips at Keelby, Caistor, and North Kelsey; the provision of soil for cover was a problem but the tips were maintained in fair condition.

The night soil collection, using an S. & D. lorry with three men, collected from all villages weekly and proved a most useful service. The same vehicle emptied cesspools on payment — £1 for each first visit and 10/- per visit thereafter. During the year ended 31st December, 1952, ninety-four cesspools and septic tanks were emptied. The wet refuse is disposed of by tipping on agricultural land or into a public sewer.

### (16) Rodent Control

The rodent operator employed by Brigg U.D.C. also carried out the work in Caistor R.D. The system was fairly satisfactory although transport proved a problem towards the end of the year. The official methods of pre-baiting and poisoning were used and the results were as follows :

Number of premises inspected :				
(a)	on complaint	..	..	81
(b)	survey	..	..	132
				— 213
Number of premises treated :				
(a)	Major infestation	..		16
(b)	Minor infestation	..		16
				— 32
	Block control	..	..	5

Sewers, refuse tips, and the Council's yard were regularly treated during the year and the number of complaints of rats was comparatively few. Most of the work done was treatment only and the amount of time available for survey was small. This position arose out of the heavy calls on the operator's time — two Urban districts and a large Rural district meant that only in urban area could a proper survey be done.

### General

As explained at the commencement of this Report, I worked for the Caistor R.D. for only three weeks of 1952, but it is apparent from the records and the work done in the district that my predecessor, Mr. D. Drakes, was a loyal and hardworking member of your staff and that he did considerable useful work in the area.

The Waterworks Manager, Mr. H. Dixon, the Assistant, Mr. F. J. Andrews, the office staff and the outside employees all contributed to a year of useful progress in the public health and housing aspects of the Council.

Finally, it is fitting that the thanks of my Department be expressed to the Clerk and his staff, who were always helpful, and to the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Public Health Committee, and the Councillors for the support given during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

V. G. HUDSON.







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J. H. Eyre,  
Printer,  
Market Rasen

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